

Sand Sagebrush Shrubland (19)

Location. This map class occurs in the upper Wupatki Basin, from the vicinity of the Visitor's Center east. It grows both on sandy soil derived from the Moenkopi Formation as well as coarse volcanic cinder substrates or a mix of the two. Sand sagebrush may be mixed with other shrubs and generally there is little grass cover.



Photosignature. Because of the variability in both substrate and shrub composition, the photosignature of this map class is variable. For the most part this unit was mapped from field observations. The example to the right is typical of occurrences on volcanic cinder; while the color is similar to the signature for rabbitbrush-galleta communities (17), individual shrubs of sand sagebrush and Apache plume are visible as white or brown specks.

